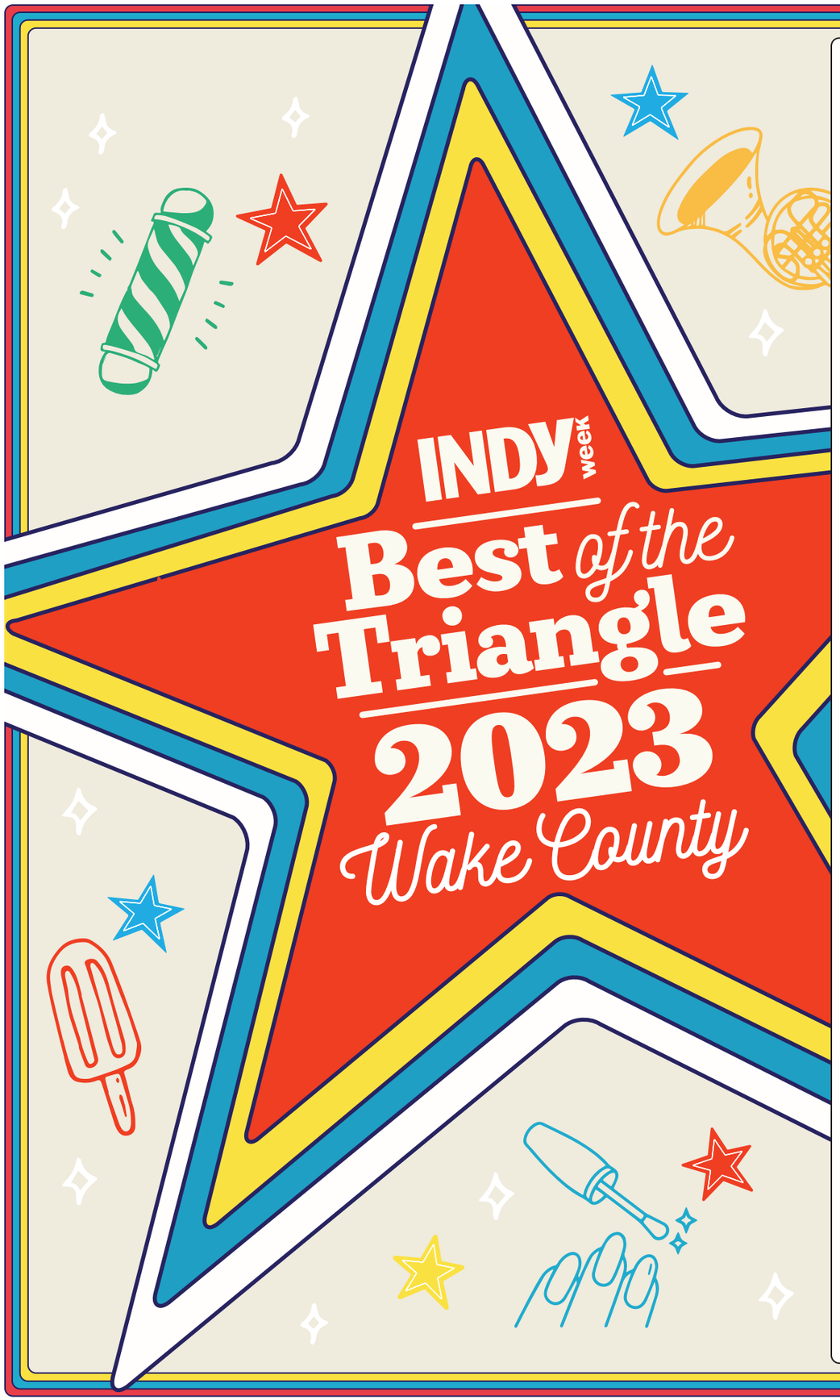


Another year, another round of winners in *INDY Week*'s much-imitated, never-replicated Best of the Triangle contest, where you tell us who's the best of the best in our beloved region.

While Best of the Triangle has been running for two decades now, astute readers and *INDY* fans will notice that we're doing things a little differently from now on. Instead of presenting all winners in all categories, ranging from restaurants, bars, and yoga studios to hair salons, museums, and preschools, all at once, we're running individual contests and presenting winners in different categories one county at a time—Wake, Durham, and Orange—starting with Wake.

At the end of the year, a contest will be held pitting the best of each region against each other for the "Best of the Triangle" crown. There are a handful of additional categories that only apply to the entire Triangle. We'll honor all Best of the Triangle winners in hundreds of different categories in a special issue in early December.

This year's list of Wake winners, as voted by our readers, really does look like a best-of-the-best list of businesses and service providers in Wake. You could make a perfect local day—or several—out of dining at the restaurants, touring the wonderful parks and museums, and shopping at all the stores for which our readers cast their ballots. As for service providers—your lawyers, bartenders, chiropractors, and dog walkers—our readers really have chosen the best in the business.

Thank you for nominating and voting for all of your favorites! Congratulations to all of the finalists in Wake, who will receive our coveted star decal to display in their windows. Winners will also receive a poster to display in their shop. Look forward to our Durham and Orange County winners in future papers, and we'll look forward to celebrating all of our winners in our special edition paper in December.



Wake County 2023

Best Businesses

Best Attorney
Cara Gibbons

Runners-up: Danielle Varno, Doyle Law Group

Best Auto Dealer
Johnson Lexus of Raleigh

Runners-up: Hendricks Toyota Apex, Sir Walter Chevrolet

Best Auto Mechanic
Joe at Precision Auto Works

Runners-up: Duty Tire, Car Fix

Best Bridal Store/Boutique
Gilded Bridal

Runners-up: Simply Blush, Vow'd

Best CBD/Head Shop
Aloha Plus Cannabinoids

Runners-up: Nature's Releaf, Trek CBD

Best Clothing Consignment
Dorcas Ministries

Runners-up: Revolver Consignment Boutique, MODE

Best Dance Studio
CC & Co. Dance Complex

Runners-up: Cary Ballet Conservatory, Tutu School Raleigh

Best Dog Boarding
Suite Paws

Runners-up: The K9 Kabana, PetSound Daycare and Boarding

Best Dog Grooming
Woofgang Bakery & Grooming

Runners-up: Harmony, Petsound Daycare and Boarding

Best Dog Training
Sit Means Sit

Runners-up: Haven Dog Training, Courtney with PetSmart at Timber Ave, Garner

Best Dog Walking
Pack and Pride

Runners-up: aMANda's BEST FRIEND, Happy Puppers

Best Electrician
Chris Lee Electric

Runners-up: Raleigh Electric Company, Clear Choice Electric

Best HVAC Company
Wake Heating and Air

Runners-up: Nguyen Services LLC, Hollister HVAC

Best Insurance Company
NC Farm Bureau Insurance

Runners-up: Amanda Hagood at State Farm, Snotherly Insurance Agency

Best Jeweler/Jewelry Store
Bailey's Fine Jewelry

Runners-up: Diamonds Direct, Traditional Jewelers



Best Place to Buy Locally Made Art in Wake County: Artspace
PHOTO BY RYAN JONES

Best Landscaper
Triangle Environmental

Runners-up: Landvision Designs, FortSmith Landscaping

Best Local Bookstore
Quail Ridge Books

Runners-up: Nice Price Books & Records, So & So Books

Best New Business
Longleaf Swine

Runners-up: Sweet T Picnics, Epic Hot Tubs & Swim Spas

Best Painters
Anderson Painting

Runners-up: CLH Painting, Isti Remodeling

Best Place to Buy Locally Made Art
Artspace

Runners-up: DECO Raleigh, The Pocket Gallery

Best Real Estate Company
Raleigh Realty

Runners-up: DuBois Property Group, Wolgin Real Estate Group

Best Realtor
Autumn DuBois

Runners-up: Mike Wolgin, Brandon Duncan

Best Vintage Store
Father & Son Antiques

Runners-up: Raleigh Furniture Gallery, TrunkShow







Best Art Gallery
Artspace

Runners-up: The Pocket Gallery, Gallery C

Best Art Museum
North Carolina Museum of Art

Runners-up: The Gregg Museum of Art & Design, CAM

Best Comedy Club/Event
Goodnights Comedy Club

Runners-up: ComedyWorx, King's Barcade

Best Drag Show/Event
Ruby Deluxe Drag Brunch

Runners-up: Drag Queen Story Hour, GAG! Raleigh

Best Electronic Concert Venue
Red Hat Amphitheater

Runners-up: The Ritz, Koka Booth Amphitheatre

Best Film Theatre Venue/ Event
Alamo Drafthouse

Runners-up: Theatre in the Park, The Cary Theatre

Best Local/Regional Podcast
North Carolina Food & Beverage Podcast

Runners-up: NCPR, Beltline to Broadway

Best Radio Station
WUNC-FM

Runners-up: WKNC 88.1, 95.7 FM That Station

Best Science/History Museum
NC Museum of Natural Sciences

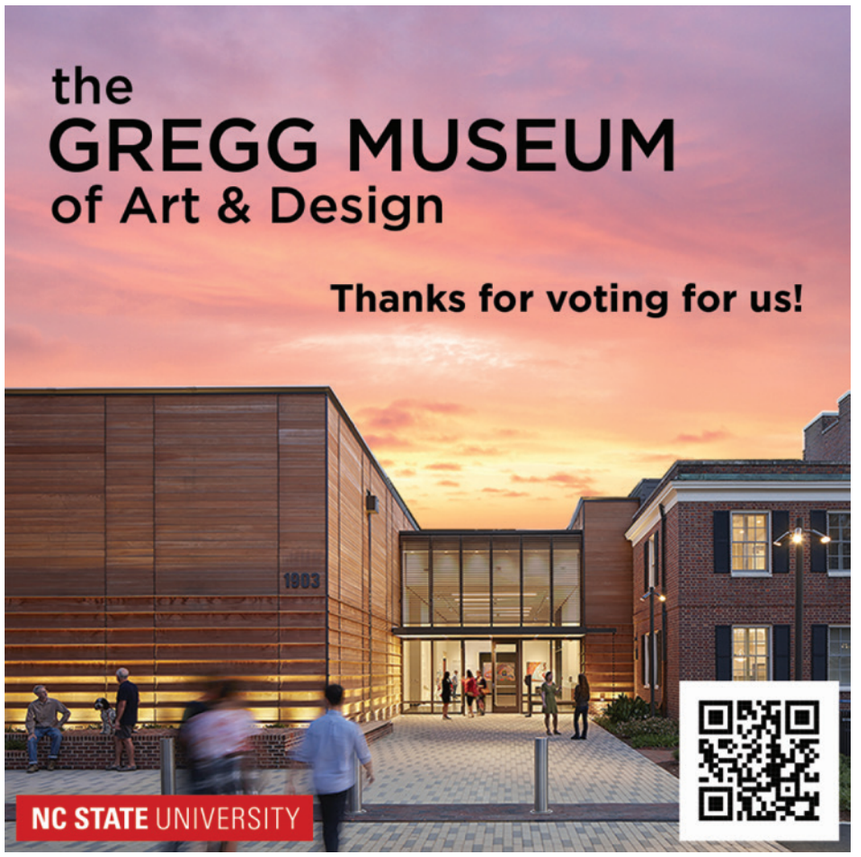
Runners-up: NC Museum of History, Marbles Kids Museum

Best Theatre Company
Raleigh Little Theater

Runners-up: Burning Coal Theatre Company, NRACT (North Raleigh Arts & Creative Theatre)

Best Unplugged Concert Venue
The Pour House

Runners-up: AJ Fletcher Theater (Pinecone), Transfer Co.





BILL BURTON
ATTORNEY AT LAW

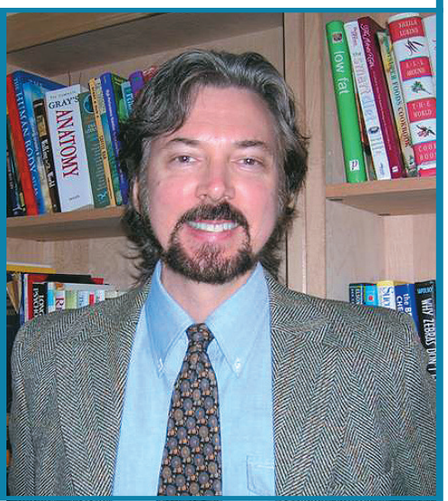
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WILLS



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Looking for Answers?

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Wake County 2023 Best Food & Drink

Best Alcoholic Cocktails
Bittersweet
Runners-up: Dram & Draught, SideBar

Best Bagel
Benchwarmers Bagels
Runners-up: NY Bagel & Deli, The Morning Times

Best Bakery
La Farm
Runners-up: Boulted Bread, Bailey Lane Baking Co.

Best Barbecue (tie)
Longleaf Swine
The Pit
Runner-up: Sam Jones BBQ

Best Beer Retail Store
State of Beer
Runners-up: Tasty Beverage Company, Bottle Rev 3

Best Biscuits
Rise
Runners-up: The Flying Biscuit, Bojangles

Best Brewery
Trophy Brewing
Runners-up: Altered State Brewing Co., Oaklyn Springs Brewery

Best Brunch Restaurant
Hummingbird
Runners-up: Flying Biscuit, First Watch

Best Burger
MoJoe's
Runners-up: Bad Daddy's, Mama Crow's

Best Catering
Catering Works
Runners-up: Donovan's Dish, Empire Eats Catering

Best Cheap Eats
Cook Out
Runners-up: Char-Grill, MoJoe's

Best Cheese Shop
Wegmans
Runners-up: Raleigh Cheesy, Whole Foods

Best Chinese Restaurant
Five Star Restaurant
Runners-up: Red Dragon, Beansprout

Best Coffee Shop
Sola
Runners-up: Cup A Joe, Jubala

Best Desserts
Hayes Barton Cafe
Runners-up: Lucette Grace, Bittersweet

Best Draft Selection
Raleigh Beer Garden
Runners-up: Tasty Beverage Company, Vault Craft Beer

Best Ethnic Grocery Store
H Mart

Runners-up: Grand Asia Market, El Toro Supermarket

Best Food Truck
Gym Tacos

Runners-up: Empire Eats Food Truck, Berto's Chimis

Best Indian Restaurant
Cheeni's

Runners-up: Kebab and Curry, Himalayan Range Nepali Restaurant

Best Italian Restaurant
Bella Monica

Runners-up: Gravy, Casa Carbone

Best Japanese Restaurant
Waraji

Runners-up: Sushi Mon, Sushi Suyu

Best Late Night Meal - Past 10 p.m.
Cook Out

Runners-up: Players Retreat, Raleigh Times Bar

Best Mexican Restaurant
Dos Taquitos

Runners-up: Gym Tacos, Taqueria El Toro

Best Neighborhood Bar
Players Retreat

Runners-up: My Way Tavern, Landmark Tavern

Best New Restaurant
Longleaf Swine

Runners-up: Cheeni's, Sushi Suyu

Best Non-Acloholic Drinks
Sitti

Runners-up: Killjoy, Sodabox

Best Pizza
Oakwood Pizza Box

Runners-up: Lilly's Pizza, DeMos Pizza and Deli

Best Seafood
42nd Street Oyster Bar

Runners-up: Cortez Seafood and Cocktail, Cape Fear Seafood



Best Alcoholic Cocktails in Wake County: Bittersweet
PHOTO BY BEN MCKEOWN

INDY week

Wake up with us



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DAZE
JOIN US
SATURDAY, APRIL 29
9AM–5PM, BOND PARK, CARY
CARYNC.GOV/SPRINGDAZE



Best Southern Food in Wake County: Beasley's
PHOTO BY BOB KARP

Best Small Plates/Tapas
Barcelona

Runners-up: Humble Pie, Vinos Finos Tapas and Wine Bar

Best Southern Food
Beasley's

Runners-up: Sam Jones BBQ, The Pit

Best Sushi
M Sushi

Runners-up: Sushi Blues, City Market Sushi

Best Thai Restaurant
Lemongrass Thai

Runners-up: Sushi Thai, Thaiphoon

Best Vegetarian Eatery
Irregardless

Runners-up: Fiction Kitchen, Sitti

Best Wine List
Angus Barn

Runners-up: Vinos Finos Tapas and Wine Bar, Peak of the Vine

Best Wine Retail Store
The Raleigh Wine Shop

Runners-up: Wine Authorities, WineFeed

Best Wings
My Way Tavern

Runners-up: Wings Over Raleigh, The Pit

A PLACE AT THE Table ALL ARE WELCOME

A pay-what-you-can cafe.

A Place at the Table provides community and good food for all regardless of means. We are serving everyone. We believe that all people deserve dignity to eat in a restaurant and have a healthy, affordable meal. Wherever you may come from, you are welcome to dine with us. We hope you will.



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Wake County 2023 Best Health

Best Barber Shop
Arrow

Runners-up: South Hills Barber Shop, Just Men's Haircuts

Best Childcare
Schoolhouse of Wonder

Runners-up: Children's Discovery Center, Country Sunshine Children's Center

Best Chiropractic Practice
Oak City Chiropractic

Runners-up: Triangle Chiropractic and Rehabilitation Center, Abundant Life Chiropractic of Apex

Best Dental Practice
Signature Smiles

Runners-up: Village Dental, Bernstein Orthodontics

Best Dermatological Practice
Blue Ridge Dermatology

Runners-up: Southern Dermatology, Clara Dermatology

Best Gym
Oak and Iron Fitness

Runners-up: AKtivate Fitness, Renu Health and Fitness

Best Hair Salon (tie)
Lux Salon
Moss

Runner-up: Little Shop of Hairdos NC

Best Holistic Medicine
Renovo Natural Health

Runners-up: Aloha Plus CBD, Awakenings Health

Best Massage Therapist
Awakenings Health

Runners-up: Kneaded Massage, Towel and Table Massage

Best Pediatric Practice
Oberlin Road Pediatrics

Runners-up: Carolina Kids Pediatrics, Pediatric Partners

Best Spa
Blue Water Spa

Runners-up: Avail Aesthetics, Colette Skincare

Best Veterinary Practice
Bayleaf Veterinary

Runners-up: Shiloh Animal Hospital, Armadale Animal Hospital

Best Women's Health Practice
Kamm McKenzie OBGYN

Runners-up: Durham Women's Clinic, Arbor OBGYN

Best Yoga Studio
Alchemy Hot Yoga

Runners-up: Barre-Up Raleigh, YoBa Studio

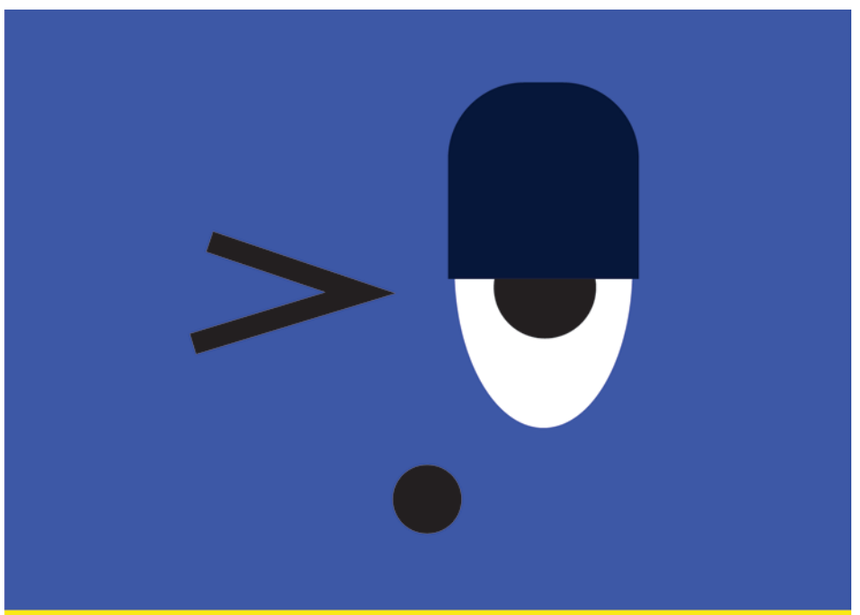




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INDY week


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Wake County 2023 Best Places

Best Arboretum or Garden
JC Raulston Arboretum

Runners-up: Raleigh Rose Garden, Juniper Level

Best Dance Venue
Legends

Runners-up: Ruby Deluxe, 440 Nightclub

Best Golf Course
North Ridge Country Club

Runners-up: MacGregor Downs CC, Brevofield

Best Hotel
The Umstead

Runners-up: Heights House, Aloft Hillsborough Street

Best Hotel Lounge
The Umstead

Runners-up: Longleaf Hotel Lounge, The Willard

Best Karaoke Place/Event
Flex

Runners-up: The Night Rider, Harryoke

Best Place to People Watch
NCMA Park

Runners-up: Glenwood South, RDU

Best Preschool/Early Education Program
Temple Beth Or Preschool

Runners-up: Edenton St Methodist Early Childhood Program, Triangle Academy Preschool

Best Sports Bar
Players Retreat

Runners-up: Carolina Ale House, Tobacco Road

Best Summer Camp
Temple Beth Or Preschool

Runners-up: Raleigh Little Theatre, Schoolhouse of Wonder

Best Trivia Bar/Event
My Way Tavern Raleigh

Runners-up: Hammered Trivia, Vault Craft Beer

Wake County 2023 Best People & Misc.

Best Chef
Scott Crawford

Runners-up: Silvano Garcia, Gregory Hamm

Best DJ
Luxe Posh

Runners-up: Alan Domingo, DJ Danielingus

Best Draft-Slinger
Cameron Herbert at Tasty Beverage Company

Runners-up: Ziggy Sprinkle, Chase at Tasty Beverage Company

Best Kids Non-Profit
Note in the Pocket

Runners-up: Skate Raleigh, Hope for Teens

Best Local Activist Group
Livable Raleigh

Runners-up: Oaks and Spokes, Raleigh United Mutual Aid Hub (RUMAH)

Best Mixologist
Mara Sudol

Runners-up: Kyle Hankin at FOUNDATION, Brad at Raleigh Times Bar

Best Non-Profit
Urban Ministries of Wake County

Runners-up: Livable Raleigh, Hope for Teens

Best Politician
Governor Cooper

Runners-up: Jane Harrison, Raleigh City Council, Mary Black, Raleigh City Council

Best Reason to Leave Wake County
Greedy Developers

Runners-up: Cost of Living/Housing, Traffic/Lack of Public Transportation

Best Reason to Love Wake County
All the Trees, Parks and Greenways

Runners-up: All the Things to Do, The People

Best Use of Public Money
Affordable Housing

Runners-up: Parks and Recreation, Public Libraries and Schools

Best-Kept Secret
The Gregg Museum of Art and Design

Runners-up: HER Circle by HER Health Collective, Sweet Ts Picnics

Biggest Waste of Public Money
Incentives for Big Developers

Runners-up: Raleigh Police Department, New Raleigh Municipal Building/New Civic Tower

Worst Politician
Mayor Mary-Ann Baldwin

Runners-up: Mark Robinson, Phil Berger

Note in the Pocket

CLOTHING CHILDREN & FAMILIES WITH DIGNITY & LOVE.

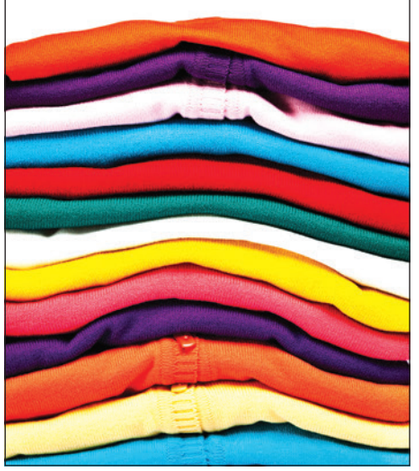
Note in the Pocket provides free clothing to impoverished and homeless children and adults in Wake County. Together we are clothing students in confidence and preparing them for success in the classroom!

GET INVOLVED

- Donate gently used or new clothing
- Contribute financially
- Volunteer

Donate and learn more at NoteInThePocket.org or

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Thank you for voting Moss as Best Salon in Wake County!

Customized cuts and color in a fun, creative, and affirming environment.

QUAIL RIDGE BOOKS

Raleigh's Community Bookstore

EVENTS

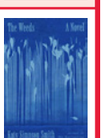
WED 4.19 7:00 PM — Lee Smith, *Silver Alert* IN-STORE



THU 4.20 7:00 PM — Charles Frazier, *The Trackers* In conversation with Elaine Neil Orr IN-STORE



FRI 4.21 7:00 PM — Katy Simpson Smith, *The Weeds* IN-STORE



TUE 4.25 7:00 PM — Frances Mayes & Susan Wyler, *Pasta Veloce* IN-STORE



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